

Message Text

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SUBJECT: VISIT TO POLAND OF DR. THOMAS B. OWEN, NSF

1. THE FOLLOWING MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN DR. OWEN AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE, HIGHER EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY JAN KACZMAREK HAS NOT BEEN CLEARED BY DR. OWEN. THE MEETING TOOK PLACE IN THE OFFICES OF THE POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (PAN) AT 6:30 P.M. SEPTEMBER 19, AND LASTED ABOUT HALF AN HOUR. PARTICIPANTS WERE MINISTER KACZMAREK (IN HIS CAPACITY AS SCINETIFIC SECRETARY OF PAN); VICE MINISTER FOR SCIENCE, HIGHER EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY LESZEK KASPRZYK; ROMAN KULIKOWSKI, DEPUTY SECRETARY, PAN; ANDRZEJ GROMEK, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN COOPERATION, PAN; BOGDAN JANCZOWSKI, INTERPRETER; DR. OWEN, AMBASSADOR DAVIES, AND ALLEN GREENBERG, SCIENCE ATTACHE.

2. DR. OWEN RECALLED MEETING MINISTER KACZMAREK DURING THE LATTER'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES IN APRIL, 1971. HE WAS PLEASED TO PRESENT A LETTER OF INVITATION FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SCIENCE ADVISOR, DR. STEVER, TO MINISTER KACZMAREK AND MRS. KACZMAREK TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES IN THE SPRING OF 1974. DR. STEVER HAS OFFERED TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATE SCHEDULE FOR THIS VISIT. MINISTER KACZMAREK EXPRESSED HIS UNCLASSIFIED

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APPRECIATION FO THE INVITATION AND INDICATED HE WILL AVAIL HIMSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY AT A TIME AGREEABLE TO BOTH SIDES.

3. MINISTER KACZMAREK STATED HIS VISIT WILL PRESENT AN OPPRTUNITY TO RESOLVE COMMON PROBLEMS AND TO IMPLEMENT THE GOALS SET FORTH IN THE OCTOBER 1972 AGREEMENT ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE US AND POLAND. INSTALLATION OF A PAN CENTER IN THE US AHD BEEN AGREED UPON. AT THE SAME TIME, THE MINISTER SAID, HE WAS AWARE OF THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A CENTER FOR NORTH AMERICAN STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW. POLAND HAS EMBARKED ON A PROGRAM FOR INTENSIFYING INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGES TO IMPROVE LANGUAGE TRAINING AND ACQUIRE AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE CUSTOMS AND PROBLEMS OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

1.8 PERCENT OF FIRST YEAR STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION ARE NOW SENT ABROAD. THERE ARE NO POLISH STUDENTS IN THE US UNDER US GOVERNMENT SPONSORSHIP, ALTHOUGH SOME SCHOLARSHIPS ARE PROVIDED BY PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS. THE US GOVERNMENT MIGHT ASSIST IN ACCOMMODATING POLISH STUDENTS IN UNITED STATES BY INSTITUTING A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, OR BY PROVIDING BENEFITS SUCH AS FREE MEDICAL INSURANCE, BOOKS, ORGANIZED STUDY TOURS, FOOD ALLOWANCE AND SPECIAL DORMITOR RATES THAT ARE NOW ENJOYED BY THE 23 POLISH STUDENTS IN FRANCE. THE GOVERNMENT OF POLAND WOULD BE READY TO RECIPROCATE.

4. MINISTER KACZMAREK STATE IT WOULD ALSO BE WORTH-WHILE TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS RELATED TO PL-480 COOPERATION DURING HIS US VISIT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT SUBJECTS OF DIRECT, PRACTICAL USE BE EMPHASIZED IN COOPERATIVE RESEARCH, AND THAT LINKAGE BE ESTABLISHED WITH INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION. COOPERATIVE POSSIBILITIES EXIST IN SUCH AREAS AS ROAD-BUILDING AND OTHER TYPES OF MACHINERY, FOOD PROCESSING, ELECTRONICS, AND OPTICS. PARTNERSHIP DOES NOT NECESSARILY HAVE TO START ON AN EQUAL BASIS. POLAND HAD DEMONSTRATED IT HAS SOMETHING TO OFFER, FOR EXAMPLE, THROUGH RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS IN LASERS. MASS PRODUCTION IN POLAND LAGS BEHIND

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THEORETICAL WORK AND US-POLISH COOPERATION ON THE LABORATORY SCALE CAN BE A GOOD BASIS FOR INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION. WE KNOW THE FIRECT INFLUENCE OF THE US GOVERNMENT ON INDUSTRY IS LIMITED; HOWEVER, IT CAN CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE WHICH WOULD ENHANCE THE WILLINGNESS OF US INDUSTRY TO COOPERATE WITH POLAND.

5. DR. OWEN STATED HE FIRST WISHED TO CLARIFY ONE POINT: THE QUESTION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PAN CENTER IN THE UNITED STATES IS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION. EXCHANGES OF SCHOLARS WERE DISCUSSED DURING SECRETARY WEINBERGER'S RECENT VISIT TO POAND AND COULD BE REVIEWED DURING MINISTER KACZMAREK'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES.

WITH REGARD TO INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION, IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION IS ORIENTED PRIMARILY TOWARDS FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH, AS IS CLEAR FROM THE LANGUAGE OF THE NEW MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN PAN AND THE NSF. CONTACTS WITH US AGENCIES THAT CONCENTRATE MORE ON APPLIED RESEARCH CAN BE ARRANGED FOR MINISTER KACZMAREK'S FORTHCOMING VISIT, BUT US INDUSTRIAL-RESEARCH ACTIVITIES ARE QUITE INDEPENDENT OF FEDERAL CONTROL. MINISTER KACZMAREK INTERJECTED HERE THAT THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH: FOR EXAMPLE, WORK ON CATALYSTS THAT MIGHT HAVE DIRECT USE IN THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY-- OR THE INFLUENCE OF SUNLIGHT ON FROGS. HE HAS A PREFERENCE FOR THE FORMER TYPE OF RESEARCH.

6. DR. OWEN SAID IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF BOTH SIDES TO CONTINUE THE KIND OF COOPERATIVE RESEARCH NOW FUNDED BY PL-480, AND THE PROBLEM OF LONG-RANGE FINANCING MUST BE CONSIDERED. WE HAVE GIVEN POLISH SCIENCE ATTACHE WOJNICKI A SUGGESTION FOR A JOINT, INTEREST-BEARING FUND. THERE CAN BE OTHER APPROACHES, AND WE WOULD WELCOME SUGGESTIONS FROM THE POLISH SIDE ON HOW THE PRESENT COOPERATIVE PROGRAM CAN BE CONTINUED.

7. DR. OWEN NOTED THAT THE OCTOBER 1972 US-POLISH AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR AN ANNUAL SENIOR REVIEW. DR. STEVER IS PLANNING A VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION IN LATE NOVEMBER OR EARLY DECEMBER OF THIS YEAR. IF THE POLISH UNCLASSIFIED

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SIDE AGREES, DR. STEVER COULD STOP BY WARSAW TO CONDUCT THIS REVIEW AND DISCUSS FUTURE FUNDING. THE VISIT WOULD NECESSARILY BE SHORT, BUT HE WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY A TEAM OF EXPERTS THAT WOULD BE ABLE TO DISCUSS IN DETAIL PROBLEMS RELATED TO PL-480 FINANCING. HE HOPED THAT THIS WOULD LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR AN AGREEMENT ON FUTURE FINANCING THAT MIGHT BE CONCLUDED DURING MINISTER KACZMAREK'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES. MINISTER KACZMAREK RESPONDED THAT HE WOULD WELCOME THE VISIT OF DR. STEVER, AND THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH HIM HERE WOULD BE VERY USEFUL. RELIANCE ON PL-480 FOR FINANCING OF COOPERATIVE RESEARCH IS PERHAPS NOT THE BEST METHOD, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF DEVALUATION AND INFLATION FACTORS. ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF FINANCING SHOULD BE DISCUSSED DURING DR. STEVER'S VISIT.

7. DURING THE DINNER WHICH FOLLOWED THE DISCUSSION, MINISTER KACZMAREK INDICATED AN INTEREST IN OBSERVING AS ADVANCED SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM DURING HIS US VISIT. DR. OWEN SUGGESTED THAT THE CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE, COLUMBUS, OHIO, MIGHT BE INCLUDED IN HIS ITINERARY.

DAVIES

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